IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

10/749,457 Appl. No.

Applicant : Paul M. Tsou, M.D.

Filed December 31, 2003

TC/A.U. 3732

Examiner : Candice Capri Stokes

455770

Customer No. : 15022

Docket No ·

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Filed via: EES-Web

ELECTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of May 3, 2006, Applicant hereby traverses the Examiners restriction under 35 U.S.C. 121 for an election of species, based upon the believe that the inventions I, II, III, IV, V and VI are in fact related and are capable of being used together. Applicant hereby reserves the right to petition.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, Applicant hereby elects Invention I. Claim 1.

In the event that there are any outstanding issues, the undersigned respectfully requests the courtesy of a telephonic interview.

In re Application of: Paul M. Tsou, M.D.

Serial No.: 10/749,457 Filed: December 31, 2003

For: MINIMAL ACCESS APPARATUS FOR ENDOSCOPIC SPINAL SURGERY
Group Art Unit: 3732

Respectfully submitted,

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